What is claimed is:

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1. A video display control apparatus having hotkeys for a user to invoke and control a

function of a video display apparatus, said function represented by a menu item from an OSD menu,

said video display control apparatus comprising:

a button unit comprising a hotkey button adapted for generating a key signal corresponding

to a menu item of an OSD menu;

a memory unit coupled to the button unit, and adapted for storing information concerning

OSD menu items;

an OSD unit for outputting an OSD character display signal to a video processing unit in

response to said key signal, whereby actuation by a user of said hotkey button causes

a screen display of one or more OSD characters; and

a control unit for receiving said key signal from said button unit; for reading information

concerning an OSD menu item stored in the memory unit, when said key signal is

received; and for thereupon sending a control signal to the video display apparatus

to control a function thereof.

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2. The video display control apparatus of claim 1, wherein the OSD menu displays one or

more OSD menu items on the screen of the video display apparatus.

3. The video display control apparatus of claim 1, wherein said control unit further comprises

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2 a detector for determining whether present-time information corresponding to an OSD menu item

3 selected at a present time is identical to past-time information corresponding to an OSD menu item

4 and already stored in the memory unit and, when said present-time information is not identical to

5 said past-time information, for enabling storage of said present-time information in the memory unit.

1 4. The video display control apparatus of claim 1, wherein said function of a video display

2 apparatus is selected from the following group: audio mute, audio volume control, screen position,

3 screen contrast, screen brightness, color, and tint.

 5. A method of controlling a function of a video display apparatus, said method comprising

~~the steps of:~~

 (1) when a user selects a menu item of an OSD menu screen by causing generation of a

hotkey button signal, determining whether a hotkey signal setting exists therefor;

 (2) when no hotkey signal setting exists therefor, executing a control function in response

to the hotkey button signal; and

7 (3) when a hotkey signal setting exists therefor, setting the user-selected menu item of the

8 OSD menu screen responsively to the hotkey button signal.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said method comprises the following further step after

2 step (3): when a hotkey signal setting exists therefor, executing a control function in response to the

3 hotkey button signal.

1   7. A method of controlling a function of a video display apparatus, said method comprising

2   the steps of:

3   (1) when a user selects a hotkey button, thereby generating a present-time hotkey button

4   signal, determining whether a stored hotkey button signal identical to the present-time hotkey button

5   signal is stored in a memory unit;

6   (2) if a stored hotkey button signal is identical to the present-time hotkey button signal,

7   executing a control function in response to the stored hotkey button signal; and

8   (3) if no stored hotkey button signal is identical to the present-time hotkey button signal,

9   executing a default control function.